

Message Text

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72

ACTION NEA-13

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-07 H-03 INR-10 L-03

NSAE-00 NSC-10 PA-04 RSC-01 PRS-01 SPC-03 SS-20

USIA-15 SAM-01 IO-14 AID-20 MC-02 ACDA-19 OMB-01

TRSE-00 DRC-01 /149 W

----- 090597

R 191631Z FEB 74

FM AMEMBASSY BEIRUT

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 6544

AMEMBASSY AMMAN

INFO AMEMBASSY JIDDA

AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV

USINT CAIRO

USINT DAMASCUS

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PFOR, JO, US

SUBJECT: PRESS REPORTS DETERIORATION US-JORDANIAN RELATIONS

REF: AMMAN 0864 (NOTAL)

1. INDEPENDENT BEIRUT DAILY AN NAHAR (FEB 18) HEAD-LINED REPORT OF ALLEGED US-JORDANIAN DISCORD WHICH IT SAID HAD ARISEN DESPITE EFFORTS BY EMBASSY AMMAN AND GOJ TO SMOOTH MATTERS OVER.

2. ACCORDING TO NAHAR, GOJ REPORTEDLY DISSATISFIED WITH US BECAUSE:

A) KING USSEIN'S ABORTED FEBRUARY VISIT TO US HAD BEEN POORLY ARRANGED, KING HAVING BEEN GRANTED ONLY NINETY MINUTE MEETING WITH PRESIDENT NIXON;

?) GOJ SUSPECTS USG HAD, BUT DID NOT PASS ON, ADVANCE
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WARNING OF ZARQA MUTINY, AND THAT EMBASSY AMMAN'S

REPORTING TO WASHINGTON EXAGGERATED REBEL NUMBERS;

C) GOJ BELIEVES IT BEING DROPPED BY US IN FAVOR OF EGYPT DUE TO HARD JORDANIAN LINE RE ME PEACE SETTLEMENT. AS A CONSEQUENCE, USG HAS BEEN SLOW IN PROVIDING ARMS REQUESTED BY GOJ FOR MILITARY MODERNIZATION.

3. NAHAR REPORTED THAT USG UNHAPPY WITH GOJ BECAUSE:

A) GOJ EXAGGERATED IMPORTANCE OF KING HUSSEIN'S TRIP TO US AND THEN ANNOUNCED NEW TRIP BEFORE ARRANGEMENTS HAD BEEN CONFIRMED;

B) USG DISAPPOINTED BY INABILITY OF US-TRAINED JORDANIAN INTELLIGENCE TO DETECT AND WARN OF ZARQA REVOLT;

C) USG QUESTIONS JORDAN'S NEED FOR ARMS WHEN CERTAIN ARMY UNITS HAVE PROVED UNTRUSTWORTHY; SCALE OF GOJ'S MILITARY REQUEST FOR ASSISTANCE ALSO VIEWED OVERLY LARGE, ESPECIALLY IN COMPARISON TO ISRAELI REPLACEMENT REQUIREMENTS FOR IDF LOSSES SUFFERED IN OCTOBER WAR;

D) USG CANNOT BE LAVISH IN AID TO JORDAN INLIGHT OF QUESTIONABLE LOANS TO JAA OFFICERS--A CAUSE OF ZARQA MUTINY. GOJ HAS GIVEN CERTAIN FAVORED OFFICERS SOME 2.8 MILLION DINARS FOR PURCHASE INTER ALIA OF CARS AND VILLAS IN JORDAN AND ABROAD.

4. ARTICLE UNSIGNED, BUT WAS LIKELY WRITTEN BY CORRESPONDENT WAFIC RAMADAN, WHO RECENTLY RETURNED FROM AMMAN. ARABIC TEXT BEINGPOUCHED EMBASSY AMMAN.

DECON 2/18/75.
HOUGHTON

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Message Attributes

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30 JUN 2005

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